

Town Manager's Monthly Report for May 2021



TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE ... all meetings are virtual unless otherwise indicated.

- Attended two Governor's Calls regarding Covid updates on May 11, 2021.
- Attended Ad-hoc Commercial District Planning meeting on May 5, 2021.
- Attended the monthly ACT meeting on May 6, 2021.
- Attended SCAT Steering Committee Meeting in Georgetown on May 7, 2021.
- Attended meeting with Representative Shupe regarding proposed voting bill on May 7, 2021.
- Attended Community Solar Bill Meeting on May 7, 2021.
- Attended ARPA State and Local Program Briefing on May 10, 2021.
- Met with Election Inspector on upcoming election on May 11, 2021.
- Along with the Town Clerk, Election Inspector, I met with Town Attorney to review election rules and guidelines on May 17, 2021.
- Met with State officials to discuss Covid communications on May 19, 2021.
- Attended Delaware Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage Training on May 20, 2021.
- Attended Federal Advocacy: ARPA Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Guidance on May 20, 2021.
- Attended Delaware Sea Grant Advisory Council Spring Meeting on May 21, 2021.
- Met with GMB to discuss Drainage Project on May 26, 2021.

Sidewalks

- Representative Gray was able to include \$250,000 in the State's FY 2020 bond bill for Coastal Highway Sidewalks – June 2019
- Fall 2019, We have received approval from the State to begin work.
- We were pleased to learn the Fenwick Island sidewalks are part of the Proposed FY21 to FY 26 DelDOT Capital Transportation Program. The sidewalk project was ranked 13 out of 116 projects. We attended the public hearing in Georgetown to encourage the project be moved up. Planning and Engineering are scheduled to start in July 2023, right-of-way work will begin in July of 2025 with construction beginning most likely in July 2026.
- We are seeking proposals for engineering work on a five- block sidewalk project scheduled to begin in Fall of 2020.
- Met on October 8, 2019 to discuss Kercher proposal.
- Met on November 20, 2019 to discuss Century Engineering proposal.
- We are recommending the Century Engineering proposal be accepted.
- Kick off meeting was held on January 28, 2020.

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- CTF funding approved, and equipment ordered.
- Initial Plans were presented in May 2020.
- Fenwick Island Sidewalks are still in the DeDOT Capital Transportation Program; however, they have been moved to FY 2026 and are ranked 26th.
- We are working with Century Engineering to pursue a TAP grant.
- Along with Committee Chair Carmean, Council member Weistling and Sonia Marichic-Goudy of Century Engineering (virtually) met on July 21, 2020, with Senator Hocker and Representative Gray to discuss support for the sidewalk project.
- Discussion meetings were held with all but one affected property owner the week of August 24, 2020. A letter discussing the impact of the sidewalk to the property was sent to the one property owner who declined to meet.
- Follow-up letters were sent to the property owners in August 2020. Two responded with concerns regarding liability during construction. Those concerns were addressed. The Town requires any contractor working for the Town to provide proof of liability and workers compensation insurance.
- Staff will be working on requesting letters of support from the property owners by the end of September.
- Staff drafted letters of support and Century Engineering is reviewing them.
- In October 2020, staff mailed letters requesting support for our sidewalk project to the ten property owners involved. We also sent a follow-up letter at the end of October. We have received one objection and two letters of support as of October 30, 2020.
- Ten properties are affected by the sidewalk project. In November 2020, we received five letters of support (4 from affected property owners and one from the head of the Business Development Committee). Two letters were received that did not support the project. Three properties did not respond. One property verbally told us they had no issues with the project.
- We met with Century engineering to determine next steps for this project. As of November 13, 2020, we are currently waiting to meet with DeDOT.
- Received an update from Century Engineering on December 15, 2020, regarding their meeting with DeDOT.
- We are pursuing a meeting with our Legislators, DeDOT and Century Engineering on proceeding with the sidewalk project. We believe we could move a portion of DeDOT's capital plans for sidewalks along Route 1 up by few years.
- Met with Century Engineering, Senator Hocker's office, Representative Gray and DeDOT officials on January 22, 2021 to discuss a path forward.

Dredging

- We are currently working on an MOU with Freeman Companies and exploring Engineering firms.
- We are currently seeking proposals from two engineering firms.